

CLAIMS

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is as follows:

- 1 1. A system for extracting and managing a business process that can
2 automatically adapt the process to changing business conditions comprising:
3 a data source containing quantified business goals;
4 an execution module that can govern execution of the process; and
5 a managerial module that can monitor process performance and can
6 modify the business process to achieve the business goals.

- 1 2. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the execution module comprises:
2 a definition of the business process steps and sequencing rules for the
3 steps; and
4 means for executing the process according to the definition.

- 1 3. The system recited in claim 2, wherein the means for executing the process
2 according to the definition comprises a workflow engine or means to invoke a
3 workflow engine.

- 1 4. The system recited in claim 2, wherein the means for executing the process
2 according to the definition comprises a state machine engine or means to
3 invoke a state machine engine.

- 1 5. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the managerial module comprises:
2 a knowledge base governing how to modify the business process based
3 on business goals; and

4 means for modifying the execution module so as to modify the
5 business process executed by the execution module.

1 6. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the managerial module detects
2 changes in conditions external to the business process and modifies the
3 business process such that the business goals can be met under changed
4 conditions.

1 7. The system recited in claim 6, wherein the managerial module
2 communicates to external entities conditions of the business process it
3 manages.

1 8. The system recited in claim 7, wherein conditions detected by the
2 managerial module include conditions of like systems that execute and
3 manage other business processes.

1 9. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the managerial module is capable of
2 forming requests and instructions, and sending, receiving and parsing
3 execution model scripts.

1 10. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the execution module comprises
2 one or more execution modules with corresponding managerial modules and
3 further comprises a manager service managing the one or more execution
4 modules and corresponding managerial modules.